

# The District 3 Slate

April 2001

County Supervisor Pam Slater

"The ... Strike Team brings together three of the largest, most influential agencies in the region..."

-- Supervisor Pam Slater



County Supervisor  
**Pam Slater**

Dear friends:

There is a wide variety of subjects covered in this month's edition of *The District 3 Slate*. You can learn good news about our region's crime rate, or read about a new strike force formed that will develop ideas to help solve our traffic problems. There's a story about the county's domestic violence hotline, and how it nearly was disconnected.

Even though there's a variety of information, I believe there is a common theme, however: It's about fixing things when they first become a problem, rather than waiting until it becomes a huge problem later.

It reflects my common-sense, conservative approach to governing, an approach that relies on what works instead of what is the newest trend.

I hope you enjoy the material and information contained in this newsletter.

*Pam Slater*

## So what's going down? Crime in San Diego

The crime rate in San Diego County dropped five percent during the last year, continuing a downward trend that first began in 1990, according to a report issued this month by the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG).

From 1999 to 2000, San Diego's crime rate dropped to 32.4 crimes per 1,000 population.

"This is tremendous news," said County Supervisor Pam Slater.

"Even as our population has steadily increased, our crime rate has decreased just as steadily," she said.

**Check out  
the numbers!**

**See chart, back page**

"It shows that the approach we're taking - of emphasizing regional cooperation - is working."

Law enforcement officials pointed out several factors for the drop in the crime rate.

They credited the use of technology, which improves law enforcement's ability to determine what areas to target, and helps them complete investigations faster.

The use of gang injunction restraining orders has helped in some cities and communities, officials said, and they also

See **Crime Rate** on back page ...

## Slater, Pfingst keep the county's domestic violence hotline from being disconnected

Victims who call the county's Domestic Violence hotline will still have their calls answered, thanks to County Supervisor Pam Slater and District Attorney Paul Pfingst.

The Board of Supervisors has approved one-year funding for the hotline, which is operated by the San Diego County Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA).

The federal grant money that supported the hotline had expired, and the YWCA faced either eliminating the hotline or making serious cutbacks in operating hours.

Last year, 16,000 calls were made to the hotline from battered

and abused women from every city and in the unincorporated area of the county.

"When I read the news that the hotline was running out of funds, I immediately knew we had to find a way to keep it operating," Slater said. "I'm grateful that we were able to find other funds and keep this critical avenue of help available to domestic violence victims."

Added Pfingst: "It is imperative that battered women have a place to go for help, and the Domestic Violence Hotline is a critical connection for them. The hotline is how these women and their children find shelter and

See **Hotline** on back page ...



**Good influences:** District Attorney Paul Pfingst, left, Supervisor Pam Slater and San Diego City Attorney Casey Gwinn have played an influential role in improving how San Diego County responds to domestic violence.

Slater and Gwinn recently co-hosted the Regional Domestic Violence Summit.

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# Internet test lets voters cast ballot with click of a mouse

Test evaluated the ease, security, of online voting

San Diego County residents got a peek at how elections may be handled in the future during a recent demonstration of an Internet-based voting system conducted by the County Registrar of Voters office.

Votes cast over the system were tallied before the Nov. 7 presidential election, but they did not count.

"Our elections in San Diego County always have been top-notch. We want to ensure that every legitimate vote is properly counted," said Supervisor Pam Slater. "Perhaps new technology can help us do that job better, and we want to thoroughly study the possibilities."

California Secretary of State

Bill Jones, who was present at San Diego's online voting test, will review similar demonstrations of the online voting system in four counties, including San Diego.

The test allowed voters to try out the system firsthand, which was developed by VoteHere.Net.

## Crime rate:

credited the public for being more aware of how to prevent crime by using special lock devices, surveillance equipment and crime alarms.

During the past five years, the region's overall crime rate fell 30 percent. There was a 34 percent drop in the violent crime rate, and a 29 percent drop in the property crime rate.

"Our deputies and prosecutors deserve thanks," Slater said.

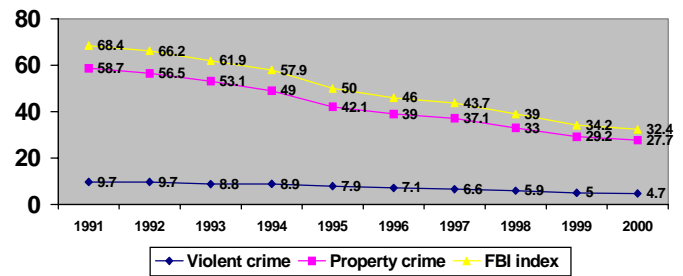
## Hotline: Will stay available

begin new lives."

It costs \$120,000 to operate the hotline for a year, and Slater's and Pfingst's proposal will use \$120,000 in Proposition 172 revenue to fund the hotline. (Proposition 172 revenue is sales tax money that is directed specifically to support law enforcement.)

The hotline was started three years ago, and it provides help to women and children fleeing domestic violence by finding them a safe environment in an emergency shelter. Sheriff's deputies and police officers also heavily rely on the hotline to find shelters for victims.

San Diego Regional Crime Rate  
By offense, 1991-2000



## Slater chosen for city panel that will seek traffic solutions

The county's Third Supervisorial District stands out in many respects – its beautiful beaches, its interesting shops, its spirited citizens. But there's one characteristic that residents wish didn't stand out as much: traffic.

Freeway congestion through the Third District equals some of the region's most congested.

"As your County Supervisor, I have been working diligently to create long-term solutions to these problems," said Pam Slater, who represents the district.

"My approach has been to emphasize consensus instead of confrontation with other agencies," she added.

Recognizing that approach, San Diego Mayor Dick Murphy has appointed Slater to the San Diego Freeway Congestion Strike Team.

The Strike Team's primary goal is to accelerate freeway construction projects such as State Route 56 and to develop regional programs to assist in managing rush hour traffic.

The Strike Team is co-chaired by Mayor Dick Murphy and San Diego City Councilman Brian Maienschein. In addition to Slater, members include San Diego City Councilman Scott Peters, Gary Gallegos, the director of District 11, the local district of the California Department of Transportation (CALTRANS) and others representatives from regional agencies.

"The San Diego Freeway Congestion Strike Team brings together three of the largest, most influential agencies in the region into a problem-solving partnership," Slater said.

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